

***** T O P S E C R E T *****S COPY

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FM THE SITUATION ROOM

TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

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TDHAK285

PLEASE DELIVER TO BREMER/RODMAN FOR THE SECRETARY

TO SECRETARY KISSINGER
FROM GENERAL SCOWCROFT

Sonnenfeldt and Hartman went to see Callaghan at the Ambassador's residence this afternoon for a brief talk on the NATO Declaration and CSCE. Callaghan started with extremely complimentary remarks about the President's performance with the Cento Ministers. He was a little worried whether he might have been misunderstood when he told the President jokingly that on the basis of his excellent foreign policy review the President might perhaps consider joining the Trade Union of Foreign Ministers. Callaghan reiterated his earlier message to you that he would understand if you could not stop in London, much as he would like to see you. Ramsbotham said afterwards that Callaghan has a lunch in the country with the Portuguese Foreign Minister on Saturday.

MORI/CDF
C03345660

On the NATO Declaration, Hal and Art stressed our strong commitment to a "Declaration" and to the British text as well as to the desirability of getting it completed by the time of Ottawa. Hal said we did not yet wish to engage the issue of the level at which the Declaration might finally be promulgated. The British are trying to get the Belgians to fall in with using their text as the basis. It was agreed that we and the British would stay in very close touch, with Callaghan agreeing with all our points. He is willing to entertain amendments, including from the French who seem eager to get some of their earlier language back into play, assuming they are prepared to go forward with the exercise at all. Callaghan did say he would not agree to inclusion of references to European unity or entity. Hal and Art assured him that while we had accepted

State Dept. review completed

***** WHSR COMMENT *****

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SUCH REFERENCES IN THE PAST WE WOULD NOT DO SO UNLESS THE BRITISH SPECIFICALLY AGREED SINCE WE OBVIOUSLY HAD NO DESIRE TO SEE THEM ISOLATED ON THIS. THE BRITISH WILL INSTRUCT PECK AT NATO TO PRESS FOR SPEEDY DRAFTING WORK WITH OTTAWA AS THE TARGET. CALLAGHAN DID NOT RULE OUT THAT THERE MIGHT BE SOME POINTS LEFT FOR MINISTERS TO RESOLVE. HE EMPHASIZED THAT THERE WAS NO POINT TO THE EXERCISE UNLESS IT WAS SETTLED AT OTTAWA, THOUGH HE AGREED THAT THE ISSUE OF WHETHER THERE MIGHT BE SOME SUMMIT LEVEL PROMULGATION SHOULD BE KEPT OPEN. HIS FEELING WAS THAT IF THE FRENCH ABSOLUTELY REFUSED TO PLAY, ALL WE WOULD GET THEN WAS A COMMUNIQUE AT OTTAWA WITH THE DECLARATION PROBABLY DEAD.

ON CSCE, HAL AND ART NOTED THE GROWING FRUSTRATION AMONG THE NINE IN GENEVA BECAUSE OF SOVIET FOOT-DRAGGING AND THE BUDDING TENDENCY TO TELL THE SOVIETS THAT UNLESS THEY WERE MORE FORTHCOMING STAGE TWO SHOULD BE ADJOURNED. HAL SAID HE HAD NOT CHECKED WITH YOU BUT FELT THAT WHILE CONTINUED PRESSURE ON THE RUSSIANS TO MOVE WAS ALRIGHT, ANYTHING HAVING THE RING OF AN ULTIMATUM COULD HAVE QUITE ADVERSE EFFECTS BEYOND THE CONFINES OF CSCE, INCLUDING THE DELICATE MIDDLE EAST DIPLOMACY. CALLAGHAN SAID HE WOULD MAKE SURE THAT HE PERSONALLY WAS BROUGHT INTO ANY POLITICALLY SIGNIFICANT STEPS BY THE NINE AND WOULD CONSULT VERY CLOSELY WITH YOU. HE DID NOT WANT THE FRUSTRATIONS OF OFFICIALS TO DETERMINE POLICY. WE NOTED THAT THE SOVIETS THEMSELVES WERE BEGINNING TO MAKE SOME COMMENTS ABOUT DELAYING THE END OF STAGE TWO TILL SEPTEMBER IF THAT WAS NECESSARY FOR NEW GOVERNMENTS IN EUROPE TO FOCUS ON THE ISSUES. WE SAID THAT IF THE SOVIETS THEMSELVES WERE PREPARED TO GO SLOW WE HAD NO REASON TO PRESS FOR SPEED. BUT OUR BASIC POINT WAS THAT ULTIMATUMS WERE UNWISE.

THIS WAS A VERY GOOD CONVERSATION WHICH HIGHLIGHTED AGAIN BRITISH DESIRE TO STAY IN CLOSEST TOUCH WITH US AND CALLAGHAN'S PERSONAL WISH TO STAY IN FREQUENT CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION WITH YOU.

WE ARE SENDING YOU A CSCE MESSAGE CONCERNING TACTICAL DECISIONS IN THE FRONT CHANNEL TOSEC SERIES.

WARM REGARDS.

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